

MINUTES OF THE PSG EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING

15 September 2017 Conference Call

11:00am-12:00pm (Pacific Daylight Time – UTC-7)

Amended and approved 10 October 2017

Present: Kyra Mills-Parker (Chair), Anna Weinstein (Northern California Representative), Jane Dolliver (Secretary), Trudy Chatwin (Canada Representative), Peter Hodum (Washington/Oregon), Mark Rauzon (Vice Chair for Conservation), Adrian Gall (Chair-Elect), Andre Raine (S. California, Latin America, Hawaii), Chris Tyson (Student Representative) [9].

Absent: Nina Karnovsky (Past Chair), Kuniko Otsuki (Asia/Oceania Regional Representative), Samantha Richman (E Coast Us Regional Representative), Martin Renner (Treasurer), Robb Kaler (Alaska/Russia Regional Representative), Ross Wanless (Europe/Africa Regional Representative) [6].

Committee Coordinators Present: Yuri Albores-Barajas (Local Committee Chair) [1].

1. ROLL CALL AND REVIEW AGENDA

Motion to begin discussion of the 15 Sept 2017 agenda moved by Jane, Adrian seconds.

Item 4 is a voting item – include a star.

Make item 5a item 5; Updates 6a-c, Adjourn to item 7

Motion to approve the 15 Sept 2017 agenda with two changes moved by Peter, Adrian seconds.

Abstentions: 0, Nays: 0, Yays: 9, motion passed unanimously.

2. APPROVE MEETING MINUTES 7 AUGUST 2017

Motion to begin discussion of the 7 Aug 2017 minutes moved by Jane, Mark seconds.

Motion to approve the 7 Aug 2017 meeting minutes, moved by Jane, Mark seconds.

Abstentions: 0, Nays: 0, Yays: 9, motion passed unanimously.

3. REGISTRATION RATES PSG 2018

Motion to begin discussion of PSG 2018 Annual Meeting registration rates (report 2a, 2b) moved by Peter, Adrian seconds.

On Aug 17, Chairs and LOCO had a call with the Packard Foundation. Most of funds from this proposal will pay speakers from Packard-priority countries: US, Chile, Indonesia, Japan, Mexico and China (20 total). Secondarily, those from: Peru, Ecuador, Panama, Columbia, Malaysia, and South Korea. The LOCO proposes to leave registration at \$350 USD/person early-bird-member rate, registration for early-bird-student members at \$150USD/person and residents of Latin America \$150USD/person (report 2a). The registration goal is 250 members and 50 students, 40-50 residents of Latin America for a total of \$66K in registration revenue (not including processing fees).

Question: Chilean scientists have submitted for a symposium and are committed to publishing the results. Can we make travel awards freely available to Chilean scientists?

Ans: Yes, with the Packard proposal, we have funding for three Chilean scientists.

Question: What is the fee for a guest? (Many prospective registrants want to bring their partner/family; the only way to register for a field trip is to be a guest). Ans:

\$50USD/companion to recover the cost of transportation and food/drink provided.

Comment: With Cvent, there is a “group registration” option, which allows one person (e.g., admin. assistant) to pay for multiple people.

Comment: Registration is on-track to open on Monday, 18 September 2017. System is set to accept payments.

Comment: Cvent has a membership pro-rate option with a “horizon.” Currently membership runs Jan 1-Dec 31 of any year. The pro-rate option means membership costs a bit more during registration, but the cost covers one full year of membership (i.e., 2018) plus the remainder of 2017 (e.g., \$48USD instead of \$40USD, but valid until 12/31/18).

Question: If early-bird registration is \$350USD, are Packard-supported scientists paying this amount as well, received as income to PSG? Ans: Yes, if successful, Packard proposal will support flights, registration and shared lodging for invited scientists. Proposal includes \$30K for travel grants, \$2K for translation services, \$6K for plenary speakers, \$1.5K for Lifetime Achievement Award, \$4K for poster session, \$4K for the welcome reception.

Question: the Packard proposal may support scientists from South Korea and Indonesia, does this distract from the focus on Latin America? These countries are a long way from Mexico, almost outside PSG’s regional focus. Ans: Indonesia, Japan and China are key countries for Packard – 6 of 33 recipients – 18%. Latin American countries are 20 of 33 recipients – 61% of those supported under the proposal.

Comment: I would like to verify the written refund policy, since there is a lot of flexibility now, with Cvent. If you cancel by Jan 19, you get all your money back. Ans: Yes, stick with this policy.

Question: What about a registrant that wants to change registration to another name?

Ans: can switch at any date.

Motion to approve the registration costs as outlined in report 2a, except non-member category raised by \$50USD for both “early-bird” and “regular” rate moved by Mark, Adrian seconds.

Abstentions: 0, Nays: 0, Yays: 9, motion passed unanimously.

4. LISTSERV TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Motion to begin discussion of listserv terms and conditions (report 3) moved by Jane, Adrian seconds.

The PSG Listserv policy was shortened and amended over some time to produce the current document. This document provides terms of use and guidelines for subscribers, and outlines actions available to the EXCO in the event these terms or guidelines are violated, including removal from the listserv (page 2). Historically, violations have been

infrequent, but they have had a personal impact on subscribers, PSG EXCO, and PSG Committee members.

Comment: We don't want to get too far in squashing the friendly nature of people to post personal/anecdotal sightings, etc.

Question: Is there wording in the document that limits that nature? Ans: **Yes, Jane will remove the word "personal" from item 2, page 1.**

Comment: Code needs one final look-through for copy-editing. The listserv terms and conditions goes hand-in-hand with the upcoming approval of the Code of Conduct.

Question: Is the current listserv archived? Ans: Yes.

Motion to approve the PSG Listserv Policy v1.0, dated 9 August 2017, moved by Peter, Adrian seconds.

Abstentions: 0, Nays: 0, Yays: 9, motion passed unanimously.

5. PSG ANNUAL MEETING DISABILITIES STATEMENT

Motion to begin discussion of the disability statement moved by Jane, Mark seconds

It is common for many institutions (e.g., universities, public libraries) to display a disability accommodations statement for events. We propose PSG display a disability accommodations statement, such as the one provided in section III of report 4

Question: Is that the PSG Chair's office number provided? Ans: Yes.

Comment: One thing to consider is whether PSG would be liable to pay extraordinary costs to accommodate one individual.

Comment: I don't think this possibility should stop us from displaying the statement.

Jane will look into ADA specification and talk to institutional experts.

Motion to approve and post the PSG Annual Meeting Disability Statement as-is in section III of Report 4, moved by Mark, Peter seconds.

Abstentions: 0, Nays: 0, Yays: 9, motion passed unanimously.

6. UPDATES

6a. Scientific Program, Cvent event and registration portals

Links for event, registration and credit card approval have been beta-tested. Chair-elect has a long list of comments. Most of these are style comments, not substance comments. We are on-track to open registration 9/18/17. Website coordinators are on-hand to make style changes over the weekend. Re: Scientific program – there are 5 plenary speakers: one to open each day of scientific talks (3), one as evening speaker (1), one to close out a day (1). These speakers include: Enriqueta Velarde, [inaudible], Dr. Martinez-Gomez, Steven Votier, Michael Brooks, Robert Pittman. Re: Special Paper Sessions (SPS), there are two confirmed: Terns in the Pacific, Seabird Restoration, and an in-planning "Conservation highlights" panel. Reviewers and those who self-identify under the "Conservation Biology" session may work to form the panel.

Question: This sounds like an extension of the Conservation Committee Meeting? Is there added benefit? Ans: possibly, depending on details to-be-determined.

Comment: The "Conservation Highlights" panel will not be an SPS in the registration portal. Possible it will be the Conservation Biology session with a 15-30 minute slot for panel discussion on unifying themes/strategies.

Question: Will there be a plenary to honor Harry Carter, 2018 LAA recipient? Ans: Yes, the specifics are being worked out.

6b. Vice-Chair for Conservation update

Three updates: 1. PSG's letter supporting Kaminoseki as a World Heritage Site – the site made it through UNSECO's first round of consideration. This proposal is something Harry Carter (LAA) promoted early on. Spencer Sealy is going to speak at the opening.

2. Lehua Island rat eradication – there is a lot of public backlash, which means PSG is failing on the education front. When Midway and Gulf of Farallones move forward with mouse eradication, this is going to resurface.

Comment: For the Lehua project – my perception is that there are a small number of very vocal opponents, who have raised issues totally unrelated to Lehua (e.g., GMOs, government overreach, government conspiracy theories). The local papers have given opponents a voice, which has spread quite a lot around the Islands. The public are not receiving correct information. It seems Island Conservation and State were a bit behind on their media strategy: a small number of people were given a voice and that turned many more people against the control effort. However, the third bait drop went ahead, so that is a success. Getting the right information out there is key.

3. We need to advertise the matching grant for student and foreign travel awards.

Jane will work with Jo and Kyra to finalize text for this fundraising effort

6c. Regional Reps update

Peter will contact Robb (to provide update) about progress on coloring book.

Peter will contact Robb (to provide update) on deadline for Regional Reports.

Regional Reps will provide an update next call on progress toward contacting lapsed members.

7. ACTION ITEMS AND ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn moved by Jane, Trudy seconds.

Abstentions: 0, Nays: 0, Yays: 9, motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA (* indicates voting item)

1. Roll call & review agenda

2. Approve minutes 7 August 2017*

3. Registration rates PSG 2018*

4. Approve Listserv Terms and Conditions*

5. Annual meeting disabilities disclaimer statement*

6. Updates

6a. Update: Scientific Program, Cvent, Registration, Abstract portals

6b. Update: Conservation Chair

6c. Update: Regional Reports, Coloring book

7. Action items and adjourn